

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 540**SENATE BILL NO. 1164****By Black, Raymond Finney, Marrero****Substituted for: House Bill No. 237****By Overbey, Briley, Lois DeBerry, Williams, Gilmore**

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, relative to testing the oxygen saturation levels of newborns.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. The Commissioner of Health is authorized to study the effectiveness of pulse oximetry screening for newborns in a pilot project at hospitals in one (1) of the grand divisions of this state. The commissioner is authorized to enter into agreements with hospitals to undertake the study. The commissioner may approve or secure the availability of pulse oximetry monitors in selected hospitals throughout the grand division. The department may modify reporting forms or permit the supplementation of existing forms in order to gather appropriate data for the evaluation of the pilot project. Nothing in this section shall be construed to require the inclusion in this pilot program of the minor child of any person who shall file with the department a signed, written statement that such screening conflicts with such person's religious tenets and practices, affirmed under the penalties of perjury. The pilot project shall run from October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008, and the commissioner shall analyze and report on the results of the pilot project to the House Health and Human Resources Committee and the Senate General Welfare, Health and Human Resources Committee on or before December 31, 2008.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: June 11, 2007



RON RAMSEY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE



JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 27th day of June 2007



PHIL BREDESEN, GOVERNOR